

City of Newton
Crime Prevention Commission

(Alternatively referred to below as CPC or the Commission)

Draft Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday, June 18, 2014

7:00pm - Newton Police Headquarters, 1321 Washington Street, West Newton, MA 02465.

Active Commissioners Present: Frank Wolpe (Chair), Richard Catrambone, Debra Darcy, and Bernie Goulding

Commissioners' Consultants Present: Sami O'Reilly, Barbara Wong, Terry Sauro, Steven Hassan and Abby M. Wolpe

Ex-Officio Member: NPD Lt. Bruce Apotheker Officer

Call to Order/Introductions/ End of Year Administrative Business -
Approval of Minutes for prior meetings; presentation of Monthly Comstat Crime Report by Lt. Bruce Apotheker (Two-time, 2010 and 2011, Nominee for coveted Person of the Year Award of the – City of Newton / Human Rights Commission)

Since this was the last meeting for the Commission's year 2013-2014, the Chair opened with a "thank you" to members for another productive year with a meaningful agenda-building finale.

The entire group then congratulated Commissioner Rich Catrambone upon his retirement from Newton South High School where he served so very well as a respected "crisis counselor.". Then, everyone enjoyed Commissioner Deb Darcy's cake and good cheer for Rich as we met in the Chief's Conference Room. All present were also quite pleased that the Chief stopped by on his way to speak with the Board of Aldermen. He continues to be most supportive.

New Business / Restorative Justice - Members talked briefly about the virtues of a very special program, "Restorative Justice." At their request, a copy of the attached 2010 message to Newton South High School was shared by e-mail with the members. It told the story of an inspiring event, which was professionally run by Commissioner Rich Catrambone.

The Chair also reported that he had lunch with DA Marion Ryan recently; and she expressed interest in working with us in Fall 2014 on “Restorative Justice.” She now uses it and likes it. Moreover, she knows of Rich’s work and respects him.

Discussion was initiated about crafting a Crime Prevention Commission “*Officer of the Year*” award to be presented each year by the Chief, the Police Memorial Association and/or the Mayor at a suitable public event. It could be like the “*Top Cop*” award that is given nationally. The selection process might include a committee designated by NPD; and the Award may be evidenced by a plaque, medal and/or ribbon to wear on a uniform, whatever makes sense.

Like the “*Top Cop*” award, it can be for:

...“tribute to outstanding law enforcement officers...for actions above and beyond the call of duty...during the preceding calendar year.

Recipients would be nominated by their NPD officer colleagues; and the top ten would be reviewed by an “Awards Selection Committee” ...”The cases are then ranked;” and the winner’s story is told.

The award ceremony could be attended by the DA, Sheriff, State Police, judges, politicians, possible corporate donors and other interested individuals.

The message would be simple. We care about our cops and their families!

Other Business / Agenda Building / Meeting Adjournment – Call for Commissioners and Consultants to report on on-going projects; thoughts for future meetings – creation of an Advisory Council with voting power, revisiting Restorative Justice, underage drinking, drugs and teen parties; SOS, like GPS for seniors, guidance for prescription marijuana, a talk by the City Traffic Director, identity theft, Steve Hassan’s idea for imagination seminars; etc.

On a motion made by the Chair, and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.